

From: PapaHalland@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/22/01 12:28am
Subject: Proposed Microsoft Suit Settlement

I wish to protest in the strongest terms possible your proposed settlement of the antitrust suit against Microsoft. The proposals as reported in the newspapers and other media I read on a regular basis are wholly inadequate to correct the egregious violations of the antitrust laws by Microsoft over the years but rather give Microsoft license to keep on bullying its way through the computer software markets without fear of any consequences or effective control by the government.

I think that the only way to level the playing field in computer software is to force Gates and Co. to establish open Operating System interface standards so that anyone with a better piece of software can competitively interface with the Windows OS and compete with Microsoft produced application SW of all types (Productivity, internet browsers, et. al.). Additionally, Microsoft applications of all types should not be given unfair advantages. The best way to do this is to sever and establish a firewall between the OS and Application SW divisions of Microsoft. In addition, there should be a special master appointed by the court of jurisdiction to monitor and bring to the courts' attention any further efforts on Microsoft's part to subvert these approaches to free and open competition.

For years, consumers have paid outrageous sums for half baked upgrades of MS software and thereby lined Microsofts corporate treasury and Bill Gates' pockets. With the findings of their guilt ahead in the bag, it is time for DOJ to step up to the plate and follow through with real remedies rather than the proposed puny "settlement solutions" that will solve nothing. Please don't let the country down. Please restore competition to the PC software market.

Sincerely,
Irving W Halland
Saratoga CA